



DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS

[Note that composite units (gray-stippled areas) are designated on map by composite label indicating both overlying sediment cover and lower (older) unit, separated by slash (for example, Qms/Tus indicates that this sheet of Qms overlies Tus).]

Qms Marine nearshore and shelf deposits (Holocene)—Mostly sand; ripples common

Qmsa Fine-grained marine nearshore and shelf deposits (Holocene)—Predominantly mud to muddy sand

Qmsb Marine shelf sorted bedforms (Holocene)—Inferred to be coarse sand and possibly gravel, found as single depressions or in fields of depressions interpreted with elevated shelf sediments (unit Qms). Although no direct camera observations of these bedforms were made in map area, their composition is inferred from similar features directly observed elsewhere on California shelf

Qmsc Marine slope deposits (Holocene)—Sand and mud; found offshore of shelf break (more than about 80 m deep) on seaward-dipping (6°–8°) surface

Qmsd Marine channel deposits (Holocene)—Predominantly coarse sand, characterized by high backscatter

Qmse Landslide deposits (Holocene and latest Pleistocene)—May represent various forms of submarine sediment mobilization, including slumps, slides, and collapse depressions. Characterized by hummocky bathymetry and headscups noticed into shelf (unit Qmsf) or slope (unit Qmsg) deposits

Tus Sedimentary bedrock (Tertiary)—Includes sedimentary rocks from the Monterey and Pismo Formations; distinguished on basis of bedding character in shallow seismic-reflection data and (or) multibeam imagery. Stippled areas (composite unit Qms/Tus) indicate where thin sheets of Qms overlie unit

Trm Monterey Formation (Miocene)—Diatomaceous, porcellaneous, and opaline shale; infusaceous siltstone, and claystone

Ksl Unnamed sandstone and interbedded shale (Late Cretaceous)—Sandstone and interbedded shale and siltstone mapped in San Simeon and Morro Bay areas, in accordance with adjacent onland mapping (Hall, 1973a, 1974). Correlated with the unnamed sandstone and interbedded claystone unit (Ksl), mapped in Point San Luis area (see sheet 5)

Kslg Unnamed graywacke (Cretaceous and Jurassic)—Thick-bedded, medium-grained sandstone; also locally present in finely bedded siltstone that has crossbedding, cross-lamination, and graded bedding. Mapped only in San Simeon area, west of Hosgri–San Simeon Fault Zone at Point Piedras Blancas, in accordance with adjacent onland mapping (Hall, 1976). Stippled areas (composite unit Qms/Kslg) indicate where thin sheets of Qms overlie unit

Kslf Franciscan Complex (Cretaceous and Jurassic)—Includes fine- to coarse-grained sandstone, siltstone, and some claystone, as well as mudstone. Mudstone is mainly composed of sheared claystone that contains exotic clasts of conglomerate, blueschist, schist, gneiss, chert, graywacke, and shale. Stippled areas (composite unit Qms/Kslf) indicate where thin sheets of Qms overlie unit

Jo Coast Range ophiolite (Jurassic)—Includes diabase, basalt, microdiorite, dike and sill, diorite, and serpentine. Ophiolite sequences mapped onland at Point Piedras Blancas and Point San Luis (Hall, 1973a, 1976). Serpentine, which often is faulted and sheared within the Franciscan Complex, is found in lenses along fault zones

EXPLANATION OF MAP SYMBOLS

— Contact—Approximately located

— Fault (offshore)—Solid where location is certain, dashed where location is inferred, dotted where location is concealed, queried where existence is questionable

— Fault (onshore)—Solid where location is certain, long-dashed where location is approximate, short-dashed where location is inferred

— Fold—Solid where location is certain, dotted where location is concealed

— Antiform

— Synform

— Monocline

— Headscarp of submarine landslide—Sharp, distinct scarp at head of landslide; in places, forms contact between landslide deposits (Qms) and other units. Headscarp point downward

— Shelf break—Boundary between continental shelf and upper slope, mapped on basis of distinct break in slope that is visible in multibeam bathymetry or on seismic-reflection profiles. Forms contact between shelf (Qmsf) and slope (Qmsg) deposits. Coincident with submarine landslide scarps offshore of Cambria

— Slope break—Break in slope along top of latest Pleistocene nearshore bar

— Boundary of multibeam-bathymetry survey

— Area of “no data”—Areas not mapped owing to insufficient high-resolution seafloor mapping data

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Bathymetric shaded relief imagery (10% vertical exaggeration) from gridded multibeam bathymetry acquired, processed, archived, and distributed by California State University, Monterey Bay, Seafloor Mapping Lab (CSUMB) and by U.S. Geological Survey (Hartwell and others, 2013).

Bathymetric contours derived from gridded multibeam bathymetry (CSUMB, 1/2 arc second NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Geophysical Data Center, 2011).

Elevation data from U.S. Geological Survey National Elevation Database (1/2 arc second); sonar illumination from northwest (NW) at 0° above horizon.

Universal Transverse Mercator projection, Zone 10N

NOT INTENDED FOR NAVIGATIONAL USE

Offshore Geology and Geomorphology of San Simeon Map Area

Offshore Geology and Geomorphology from Point Piedras Blancas to Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo County, California

By
Janet T. Watt, Samuel Y. Johnson, Stephen R. Hartwell, and Michelle Roberts
2015